

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL  
December 8, 2014

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Ryan, Shapiro, Wassmundt

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Raymond moved and Ms. Moran seconded to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2014 regular meeting as corrected. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Kochenburger and Mr. Shapiro who abstained. Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2014 special meeting as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Kochenburger, Mr. Shapiro and Ms. Wassmundt who abstained.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Rebecca Shafer, Echo Road, requested that tax bills state the interest rates to be charged and provided information on the yearly increase to interest rates charged for delinquent accounts.

Margaret Ferron, Gurleyville Road and General Coordinator of the Playground Committee, expressed her appreciation for the support of the majority of Councilors and distinguished between the input of playground supporters and some of the public comments at the November 24, 2014 Council meeting, noting that the tone and content of some of the public input was disgraceful and disrespectful. Ms. Ferron stated that the requirement that the playground be accessible via public transportation is non-negotiable and outlined the efforts of the Committee to raise the necessary funds.

Gary Bent, Mansfield Hollow Road speaking for himself and his wife, urged support of the playground and asked the Council to embrace the vision.

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, commented that there is a communication problem in the Town and that misinformation is often disseminated from a variety of sources. Mr. Hossack is in favor of the playground but objects to the amount to be spent.

Brian Coleman, Centre Street, noted that his review of information in the packet shows that almost all ordinance violations occurred in the neighborhoods around UConn which undermines the argument for the extended rental certification zone. Mr. Coleman also commented on the successful cooperation between the state police and UConn police.

Arthur Smith, Mulberry Road, thanked Council members for the November 24, 2014 decision on the playground. Mr. Smith asked if a criminal investigation is going on and does it involve the Town. Specifically he asked if Town property has been seized or if Town documents have been requested in connection with the Board of Education investigation.

Julia DeLapp, Lynwood Road resident and Fundraising Chair for the Playground Committee, addressed some of the misconceptions stated during recent public comments. The Committee is not asking the Town for money nor do they plan to ask the Town for money. Ms. DeLapp reviewed the sources of the majority of received funds which include 361 unduplicated individual donations and 73 unduplicated business donations. Although a few members of the public have spoken out against the project, Ms. DeLapp noted hundreds of residents have donated both time and money to the project. She urged the Council to support their efforts to secure grants.

#### IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written comments the Town Manager offered the following comments:

- The Personnel Committee is meeting next week to discuss health insurance claims. The Town's insurance consultants will be in attendance to discuss the issue. All Council members are invited.
- In response to a request from a Councilor, the Town Manager suggested the order of the subjects to be discussed in executive session be reversed.
- Staff will explore the feasibility of including interest rate information on tax bills.
- The Community Center has been operating in the black (not including the debt service) for a number of years.
- Question concerning the travel expenses at the Board of Education and whether or not there is a criminal investigation will be referred to the Board of Education and their attorney.

#### V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ms. Moran expressed her pleasure at seeing so many members of the Playground Committee in attendance, as it is often difficult to get the public to become active in local issues. She has been impressed with the work of the Committee and agrees with the need and location as expressed by the Committee.

Mr. Ryan commented that his objection to supporting the STEAP grant for the playground at the last meeting was due to concerns as to whether the Town would own or be able to lease the land that would be necessary. Mr. Ryan stated that he is a supporter of the playground and would like to see it built.

Ms. Wassmundt agreed with Mr. Ryan comments and commented that the documentation necessary to make a decision was incomplete.

#### VI. OLD BUSINESS

##### 1. Storrs Center Update

The Town Manager noted that the bids for the light pylons and performance pavilion are due on January 8, 2015 and that the ordinances for Storrs Center are being reviewed by the Town Attorney and will be brought to the Council for consideration in the near future.

##### 2. Community/Campus Relations

- UCONN Campus Master Plan  
UConn Master Planner and Chief Architect Laura Cruickshank , Director of Planning Beverly Wood and Deputy Chief of Staff Mike Kirk provided an update to the University's Draft Campus Master Plan which was described as a comprehensive vision for the next twenty years. The draft plan identifies the proposed campus development, the issues which still need to be resolved, and the next steps. The presenters will be meeting with Town committees to discuss the draft. Ms. Wood urged the public to visit the website ([www.masterplan.uconn.edu](http://www.masterplan.uconn.edu)).  
Ms. Raymond left the meeting at 9:19 p.m.
- Fall Semester Enforcement Activities  
Hans Reinhart, UConn Deputy Chief of Police, Sgt. Rich Cournoyer of the State Police, Michael Nintean, Director of Building and Housing, Fran Raiola, Fire Marshall and Emergency Management Director, Dave Dagon, Mansfield Fire Chief, Curt Hirsch, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Ashley Hudd-Trotter, Program Coordinator for Off Campus Student Services, and Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development described the collaborative enforcement and educational efforts undertaken by their departments.

Mr. Nintean will provide information about the locations of recent housing conversions from single family to rental units.

#### VII. NEW BUSINESS

##### 3. Grant Applications to Regional Performance Incentive Program

Mr. Marcellino moved and Ms. Moran moved to approve the following resolution:

Whereas, Section 4-124s as amended by Section 251 and 253 of Public Act 13-247 passed by the Connecticut General Assembly provides statewide incentive grants to regional planning organizations for projects that involve shared services; and

Whereas, the Capitol Region Council of Governments is acting as a convener and facilitator of service sharing projects around the CRCOG region; and

Whereas, on November 12, 2014 the Policy Board of CRCOG passed a resolution authorizing development and submittal of an application package to the State Office of Policy and Management for funding under the Regional Performance Incentive Grant Program, on behalf of the Council's member municipalities, and municipalities of other regions, which are participating in Council initiatives; and

Whereas, the Chief Elected Officials and municipal staff of the Capitol Region have developed a list of service sharing project proposals that will be included in this application package, to the benefit of individual municipalities and the region as a whole; and

Whereas the Town of Mansfield has expressed an interest in taking part in the project proposal(s) entitled:

1. Economic Development Grant for the Towns of Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield and Tolland
2. Regional Service Management (CRM) System

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the Mansfield Town Council does hereby endorse the above referenced Regional Performance Incentive Program project proposal and authorizes the Town Manager to sign all necessary agreements and take all necessary actions to allow for the town's participation in this program.  
The motion passed unanimously.

##### 4. Master Municipal Agreement for Right of Way Projects

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager, is hereby authorized to sign the Agreement entitled Master Municipal Agreement for Rights of Way Projects.

##### 5. Proposed Fiscal Year 2014/15 Salary Budget Transfers

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee, moved effective December 8, 2014 to approve the Salary Transfers for Fiscal Year 2014/15, as presented by the Director of Finance in her correspondence dated December 4, 2014.

Motion passed unanimously.

##### 6. Cancellation of December 22, 2014 Town Council Meeting

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded, effective December 8, 2014, to cancel the December 22, 2014 regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### VIII. QUARTERLY REPORTS

No comments offered.

#### IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

December 8, 2014

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee reported that Jeff Ziplow of Blum and Shapiro reported on his review of financial controls and is developing a control matrix. Mr. Ziplow has not yet begun to look at the allocation of Finance Department resources.

X. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Kochenburger suggested that instead of a separate posting, a link to the departmental and committee reports be provided to Council members. Mr. Kochenburger also applauded the proposed changes to the turning lane at the Rte. 195 and Rte. 275 intersection.

XI. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

7. G. Bent (11/29/14)
8. H. Bunnell (11/21/14)
9. M. Legassey (11/24/14)
10. R. Moynihan (11/03/14)
11. Connecticut Council of Small Towns re: Connecticut's Town Meeting 2015
12. Tolland County Chamber of Commerce re: Membership

XII. FUTURE AGENDA

No items suggested.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Moran seconded to reverse the order of the executive sessions. Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Pending Claims or Litigation will be first and the Sale and Purchase of Real Property will be second. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Shapiro moved that the Town Council move into executive session and include the Town Attorney, Town Manager and Director of Planning and Development in the discussion regarding Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Pending Claims or Litigation and the Town Attorney, Town Manager, Director of Planning and Development, and the Sustainability and Natural Resources Coordinator in the discussion regarding Sale or Purchase of Real Property.

Mr. Shapiro recused himself from discussion of the Sale or Purchase of Real Property as he has a professional relationship with one of the attorneys.

Seconded by Ms. Moran the motion passed unanimously.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Pending Claims or Litigation, in accordance with CGS §1-200(6) (B)

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, Wassmundt  
Also included: Attorney Kevin Deneen, Town Manager Matt Hart, Director of Planning and Development Linda Painter

Sale or Purchase of Real Property, in accordance with CGS§1-200-(6) (D)

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, Wassmundt  
Also included: Town Attorney Kevin Deneen, Town Manager Matt Hart, Director of Planning and Development Linda Painter and Sustainability and Natural Resources Coordinator Jennifer Kaufman

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Kegler seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 p.m.  
The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Mansfield Town Clerk

December 8, 2014